

Data Communications Program

Overview

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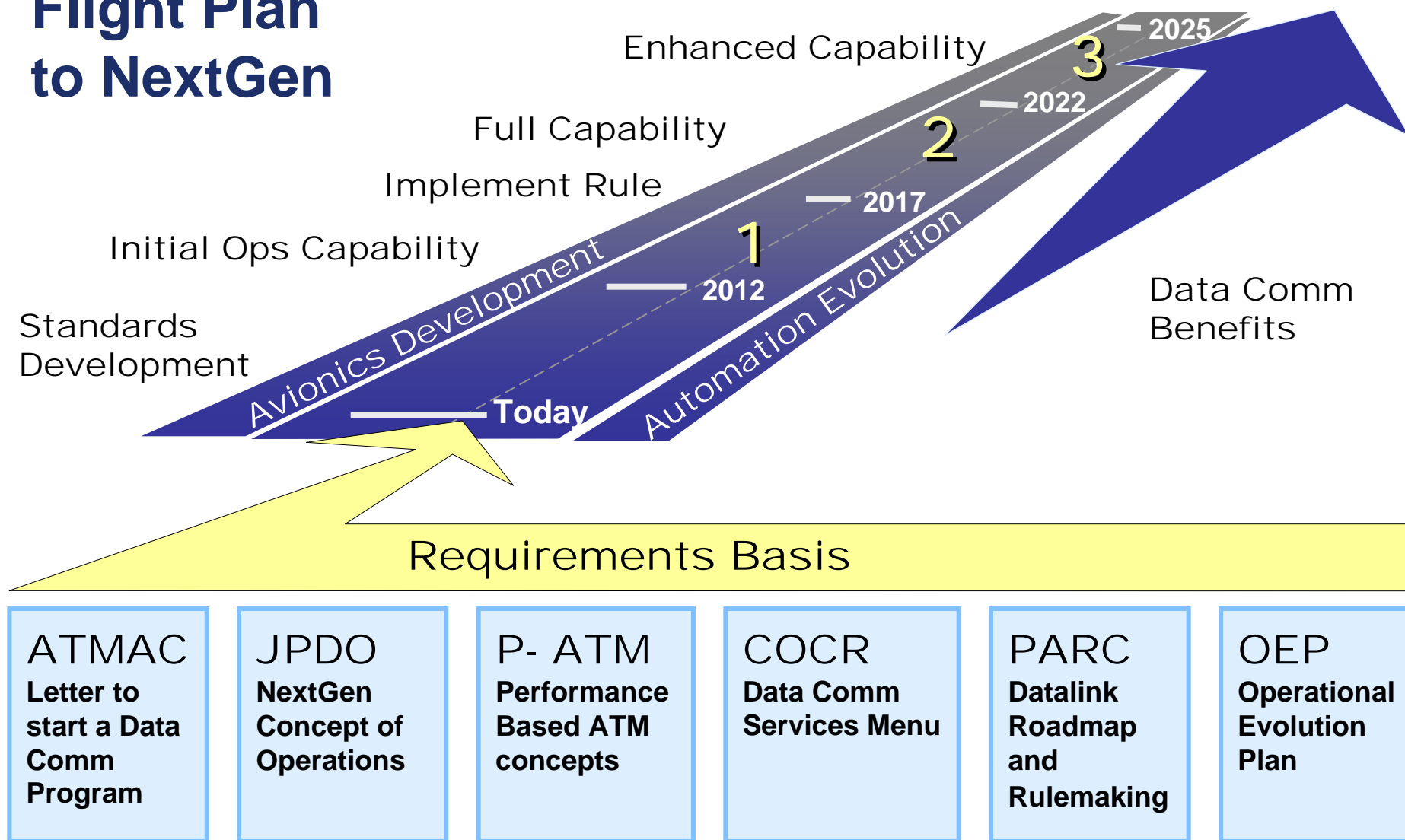
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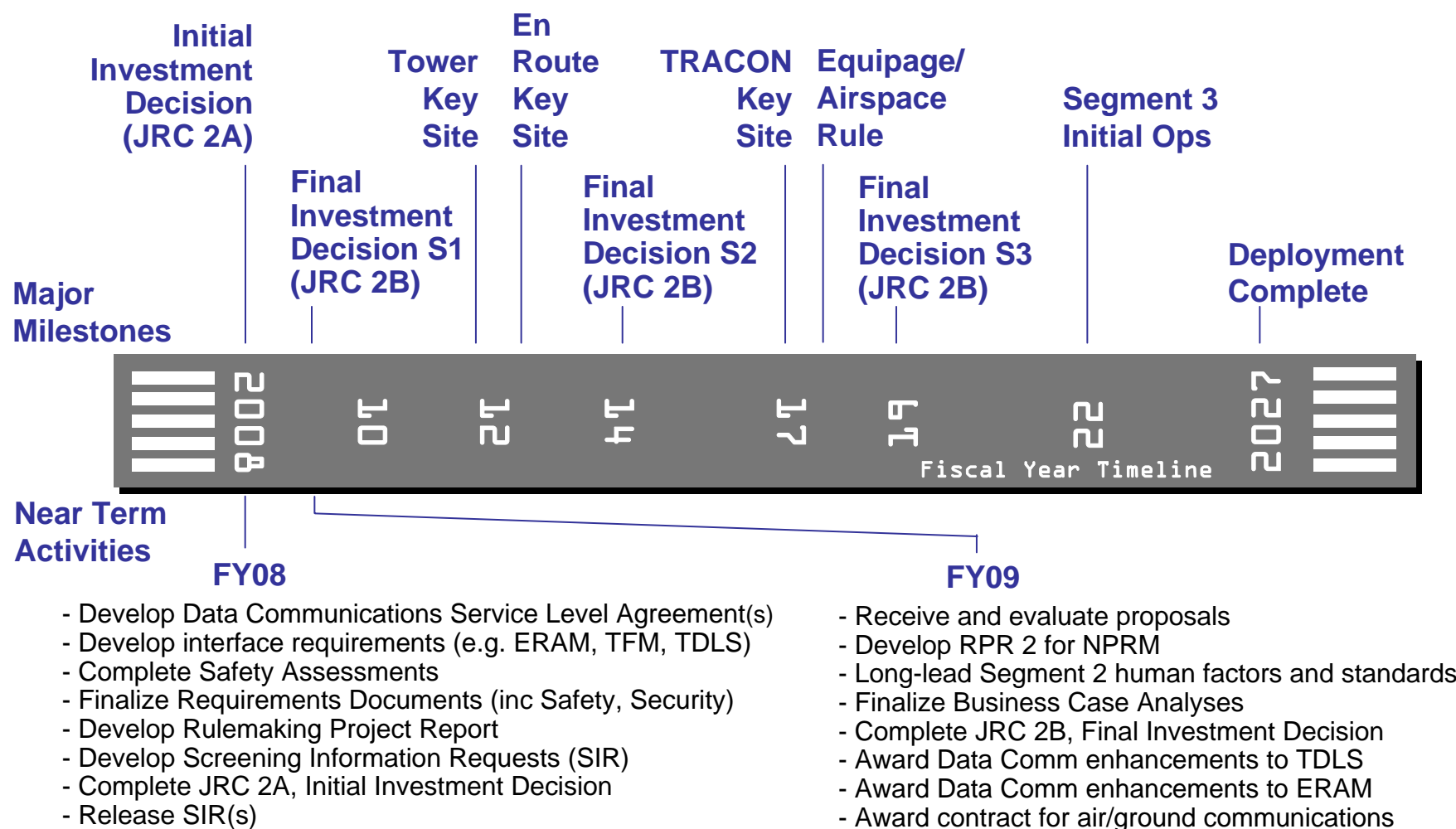
**Federal Aviation
Administration**



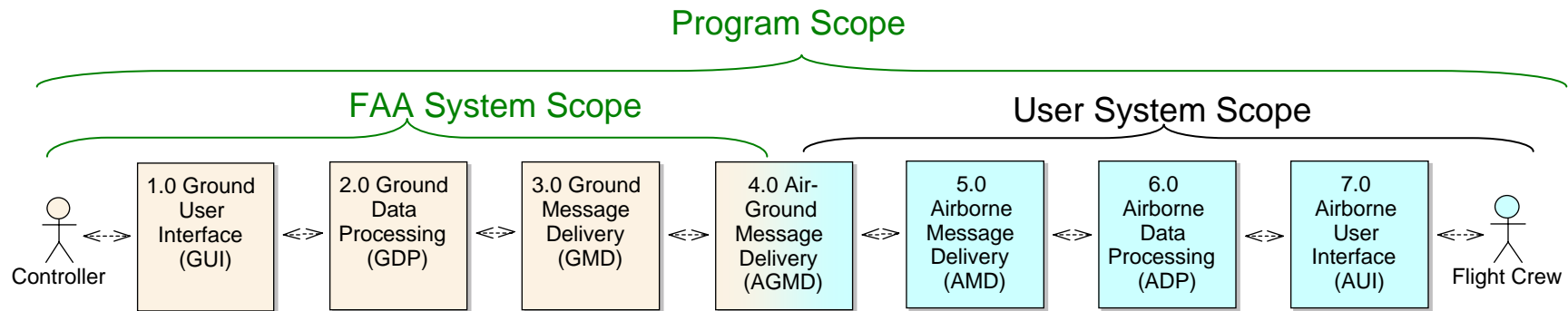
Data Communications Flight Plan to NextGen



Data Communications Program Timeline



System Scope – Portfolio Approach



- **FAA System Scope**

- Enhancements required to perform data communications in:
 - Ground User Interface (e.g. ERAM/DSR display software)
 - Ground Data Processing (e.g. application software to create clearances)
 - Ground Data Delivery (e.g. wide area networking between ground facilities)
 - A/G Message Delivery service or ground components (e.g. radio, ground antenna)

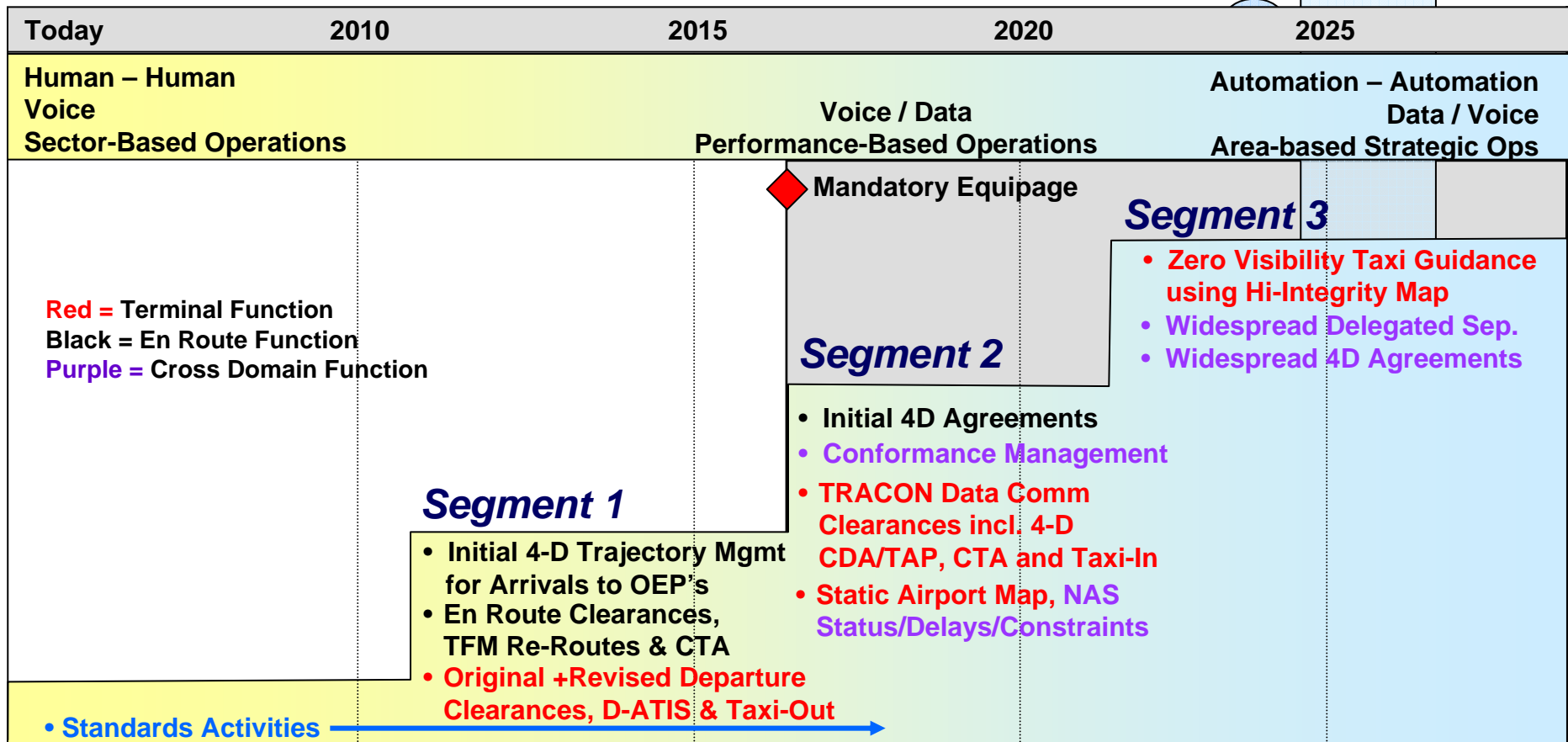
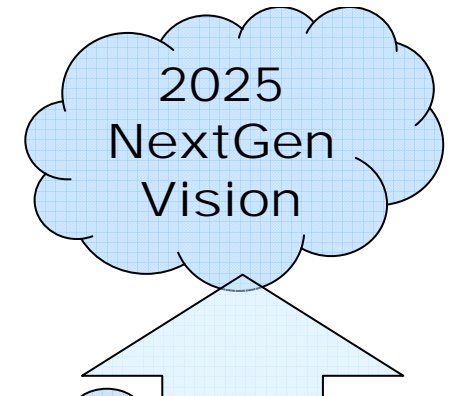
- **User System Scope**

- Enhancements required to perform data communications in:
 - Airborne components of A/G Message Delivery (e.g. aircraft radio, antenna)
 - Airborne Message Delivery (e.g. aircraft networking)
 - Airborne Data Processing (e.g. app s/w in comm & flight management units)
 - Airborne User Interface (e.g. cockpit displays & s/w)

Subnetwork & Protocols

- **Per ATMAC guidance, subnet will be VDL-2**
 - May require additional 25kHz spectrum
 - Some prioritization/ground station handoff SW may be added to ground stations in later segments for load balancing
 - Mature NextGen may require new subnet which will be that investigated under Future Communications Study results
- **Application level protocols to be supported include:**
 - **Aeronautical Telecommunication Network (ATN)**
 - CPDLC (incl. Departure Clearance), Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Contract (ADS-C), Digital Automatic Terminal Information Service (D-ATIS)
 - **Future Air Navigation System (FANS)**
 - CPDLC & ADS-C (Departure Clearance support TBD)
 - **ARINC 623**
 - Departure Clearance & D-ATIS
 - **Plain Old ACARS (POA)**
 - Pre Departure Clearance (PDC) & D-ATIS
 - PDC users NOT eligible for revisions/full route clearances
 - POA sunset start of Segment Two

Data Communications Program Roadmap



Segment 1 Functionality ~2012-2017

- **En Route based on ATN Baseline 1, PM CPDLC Level C (DO-280B) and FANS 1/A over VDL-2 (Same as LINK 2000+)**
 - Data communications initiation capability
 - Initial 4-D Trajectory clearances for tailored arrivals (**FMS auto-load required**). Available in select airspace as preferential ops, but airspace will remain mixed voice and data
 - Air Traffic Control Clearances including route changes (clearance info can be shared with other ground automations systems e.g., TFM)
 - Automated hand-off provides instructions for next sector frequency & data communications management
 - Free-text messages (e.g., Microphone Check to inform pilots of voice frequency blockage)
 - Manual uplink of Controlled Time of Arrival from TFM
- **Tower based on ARINC 623 over VDL-2 and ATN Baseline 1, DCL (DO-280B) over VDL-2**
 - Data communications initiation capability
 - Air Traffic Control Clearances including departure clearance plus revisions, and departure taxi instructions (clearance info can be shared with other ground automations systems e.g., TFM)
 - Digital ATIS over FAA data infrastructure

Segment 2 Functionality ~2017-2022

- **En Route based on FMS-integrated ATN (DO-nnn) and FANS 1/A over VDL-2**
 - New/Additional ATC Clearances
 - Flight Path Intent (FMS predicted flight path for trajectory conformance monitoring)
 - Common Trajectory Coordination agreement in performance based airspace. Not expected that the entire route contained in initial agreement will be conflict free
 - Flight performance downlink (e.g. heading, speed, rate of climb) to controller & ground tracking system
 - Aircrew preferences downlink (e.g., preferred altitude for given weight/time) available to controller/TFM Automation
 - Automate the interface for uplink of Controlled Time of Arrival from TFM
 - NAS/Airport status, delays & constraints etc. uplinked to the aircrew
- **TRACON based on FMS-integrated ATN (DO-nnn) and FANS 1/A over VDL-2**
 - Add Data Comm functions for ATC Clearances including arrival taxi support
 - Automated hand-off provides instructions for next sector frequency & data communications management
 - Flight Path Intent (FMS predicted flight path for trajectory conformance monitoring)
 - Flight performance downlink (e.g., speed, selected altitude or approach)
 - Automate the interface for uplink of Controlled Time of Arrival from TFM
 - NAS/Airport status, delays & constraints etc. uplinked to the aircrew)
- **Tower based on ARINC 623 over VDL-2 and ATN Baseline 1 DCL (DO-280B) over VDL-2**
 - New ATC Clearances including detailed taxi instructions (in place of coded routes), RNAV Departure procedures & arrival taxi support
 - Aircrew preferences downlink
 - Uplink of static display of current airport map
 - NAS/Airport status, delays & constraints uplinked to the aircrew)

Challenges / Opportunities

- **Functional Allocation & System Integration**
 - En Route / TRACON / Tower / TFM + Ground Network + RF Link
- **Synchronization of Investments**
 - The right service sets, available at the right time at the right locations
 - User, supplier business cases
 - Avionics
 - Rulemaking
- **Acquisition of Services**
 - Bundling of functional elements
 - Lease, buy, build options
 - Key cost drivers